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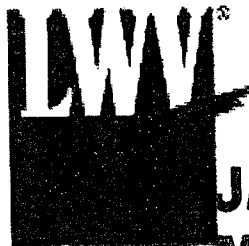
LWV Bulletin, September, 2004

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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Sept, 2004 Huntington Area L.W.V.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF HUNTINGTON



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LWVUS website: www.LWV.ORG

September 2004 Bulletin

**JAMES E.
MORROW**

**SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS**

HELP AMERICAN VOTERS (HAVA) MEETING

On September 20, 7 pm, at Enslow Park Presbyterian Church, the League will sponsor a meeting on HAVA. The purpose of HAVA is to help safeguard the votes of all Americans. A speaker from the Secretary of State's Office will talk about how the national law is being implemented in West Virginia.

The national League has prepared an excellent publication, *Helping America Vote: Safeguarding the Vote*. It outlines a set of recommended operational and management practices for state and local election officials to enhance voting system security, protect eligible voters, and ensure that valid votes are counted. It can be accessed at www.lwv.org/elibrary/pub/voting_safeguardin_g_color.pdf.

VOTER REGISTRATION PROJECT

The National Low Income Housing Coalition sponsored a National Low Income and Homeless Voter Registration Day on July 22. League members who helped register voters were Lois Wallace, Elinore Taylor, Doris Johnson, and Helen Brown. Elinore reported that the session at Marcum Terrace was a really lively and encouraging experience. Besides registering 18 voters, they demonstrated how to use the touch screen voting system, courtesy of the county clerk's office. The most positive aspect of the two hours was the lively discussion that went on as residents wandered in and out. They were well informed on the issues that concerned them and prepared to express their convictions by their vote. Health care was a particularly hot topic for discussion. It was the sort of afternoon that renewed your faith in the democratic process.

ELECTRONIC VOTING MEETING

In July the League sponsored a meeting on electronic voting. County Clerk Karen Cole, Mike McCarthy, and Stacy McChesney spoke and answered questions. A lively discussion from the audience and panelists brought forth many issues and fears about electronic voting and a better understanding of the process.

At the June national convention of the League of Women Voters, delegates voted that our position on the "Citizen's Rights to Vote should read, "In order to ensure integrity and voter confidence in elections, the LWVUS supports the implementation of voting systems and procedures that are secure, accurate, recountable, and accessible." This revised stance means that:

- * The League neither supports nor opposes any type of technology per se, such as Direct Recording Electronic voting machines (DREs), VVPT, or optical scan.

- * Leagues may advocate for the four criteria, but it would not be appropriate to advocate for or against a type of technology, as indicated above, since that would be inflexible and would undermine technological innovation.

- * Because election laws and current equipment are different in each state, Leagues in each state may support particular voting systems appropriate to them, including the management, operational and polling place procedures associated with the equipment. But before lobbying for or against a particular voting system, the system as a whole should be evaluated against the criteria, and only those that meet all four criteria may be supported.

TODAY SHOW

The "Today" show on NBC will feature a special series titled, "What's at Stake Today," where they'll take a closer look at the issues you think are most important as we approach the 2004 presidential election. They are looking for input. This is a great opportunity for issue-savvy persons to weigh in. Let them know what issues matter most to you when you're considering how you'll cast your vote in November. Submit your comments at <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/5396445>.

WEBSITE INFORMATION ON CANDIDATES

The Huntington League is working with the Herald-Dispatch to provide information about candidates to be published in the newspaper and on its website. Other website information on candidates is available at www.dnet.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Anne Csernica who was chosen Volunteer of the Year at the Huntington Museum of Art.

Herb Colker who was chosen to be a member of Huntington's Hall of Fame.

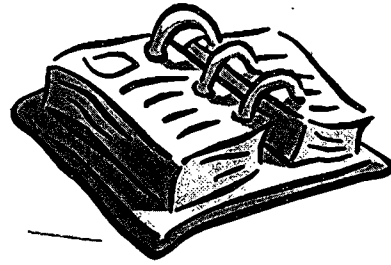
Martha Woodward's who was appointed to the Governor's Conference on Governing.

ABSENTEE VOTING

You may contact the county clerk now to request an application for an absentee ballot by mail. Telephone – 304-526-8825 or FAX – 304-526-8632.

Early voting in person in the courthouse will be from October 13-15; 18-22; 25-30.

CALENDAR



September 20, 7 pm. League meeting on the Help America Vote Act. Enslow Park Presbyterian Church

October 13, Last day to register to vote.

October 14, 6:30 pm. Candidates meeting at Woodlands

October 25, 7 pm. Candidates meeting at Junior League Community Center

WELCOME

New member, Pamela Smith.

CHECK OUT THOSE ADS

The Annenberg Political Fact Check website, www.factcheck.org, reports on the accuracy of political ads.

DUES

If you have not already sent in your dues, please send to Ann Speer, 706 Ridgewood Rd., Huntington, 25701. Dues are \$24, students; \$40 for an individual; \$55 for two persons in one household.

THANKS TO

Julie Damewood for producing the excellent "Summer Fun" flyer.

LWV is a nonpartisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Membership in the League is open to women and men of voting age. Annual dues, not tax deductible, are \$40 individual, \$55 for two in one household and \$24 for students.

To join, send your check to: Ann Spear, Treasurer, 706 Ridgewood Road, Huntington, WV 25701

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LWV Huntington Area

Jane Husted, Editor

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